



# 2016-20 STRATEGIC PLANNING ~ POLICY FORUMS~

## College Access

March 20, 2015

# Why a Policy Forum?

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To gather feedback from key stakeholders to better inform the 2016-2020 Strategic Agenda for Kentucky Postsecondary and Adult Education

# College Access

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## Today's Focus –

How can Kentucky strengthen its college-going culture, particularly for low-income, minority, marginalized and underserved populations?

# College Access

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## Today's Definition –

Supporting universal access to postsecondary education through the development of foundational success skills and the effective dissemination of “college knowledge.”

# College Knowledge



## Today's Definition—

The non-academic knowledge required to successfully explore, evaluate, select, apply, enroll, navigate, and succeed in a college system.

# Foundational Success Skills Include:



- Financial Literacy
- Time Management
- Personal Responsibility
- Working in a Team
- Leadership
- Critical Thinking
- Analytical Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Study Skills
- Test-taking
- Persistence
- Overcoming Adversity
- Conflict Resolution
- Communication (written and oral)
- Information Literacy
- Using Technology



What does the current college  
access landscape look like?

# Current Landscape



- ❑ College-Going Culture
- ❑ Postsecondary Enrollment
- ❑ Summer Melt
- ❑ Financial Aid
- ❑ College Success



# College-Going Culture



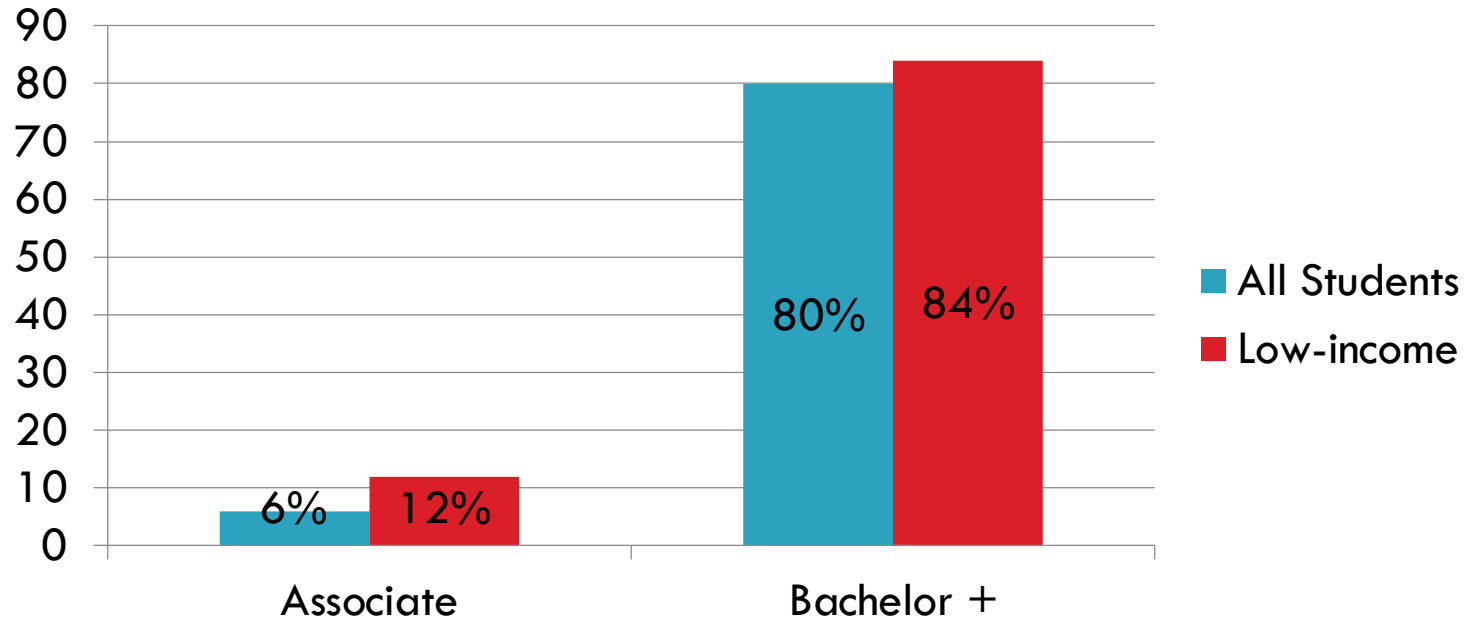
The environment, attitudes, and community practices that encourage the pursuit of higher education:

- ❑ Students understand options/requirements for their future.
- ❑ High expectations for all students.
- ❑ Consistent community-wide support and messages.

# College Aspirations



A large majority of U.S. students aspire to college

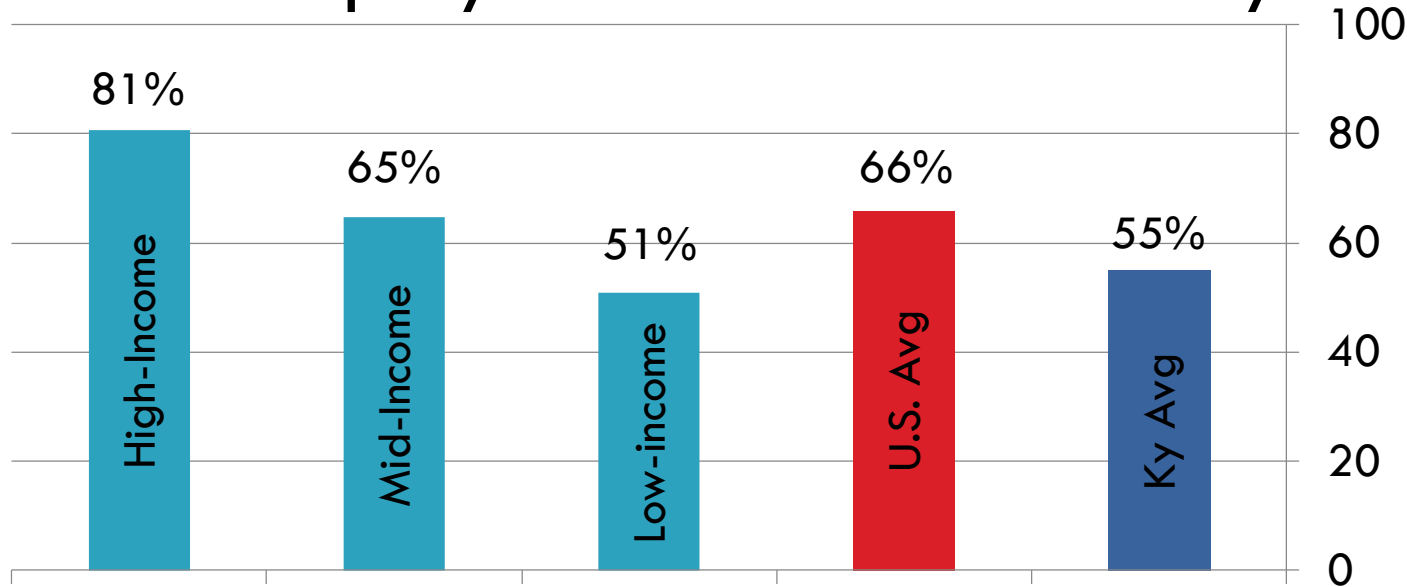


Source: "The Condition of College & Career Readiness," ACT, 2013.

# College Going



But income plays a role in who actually attends

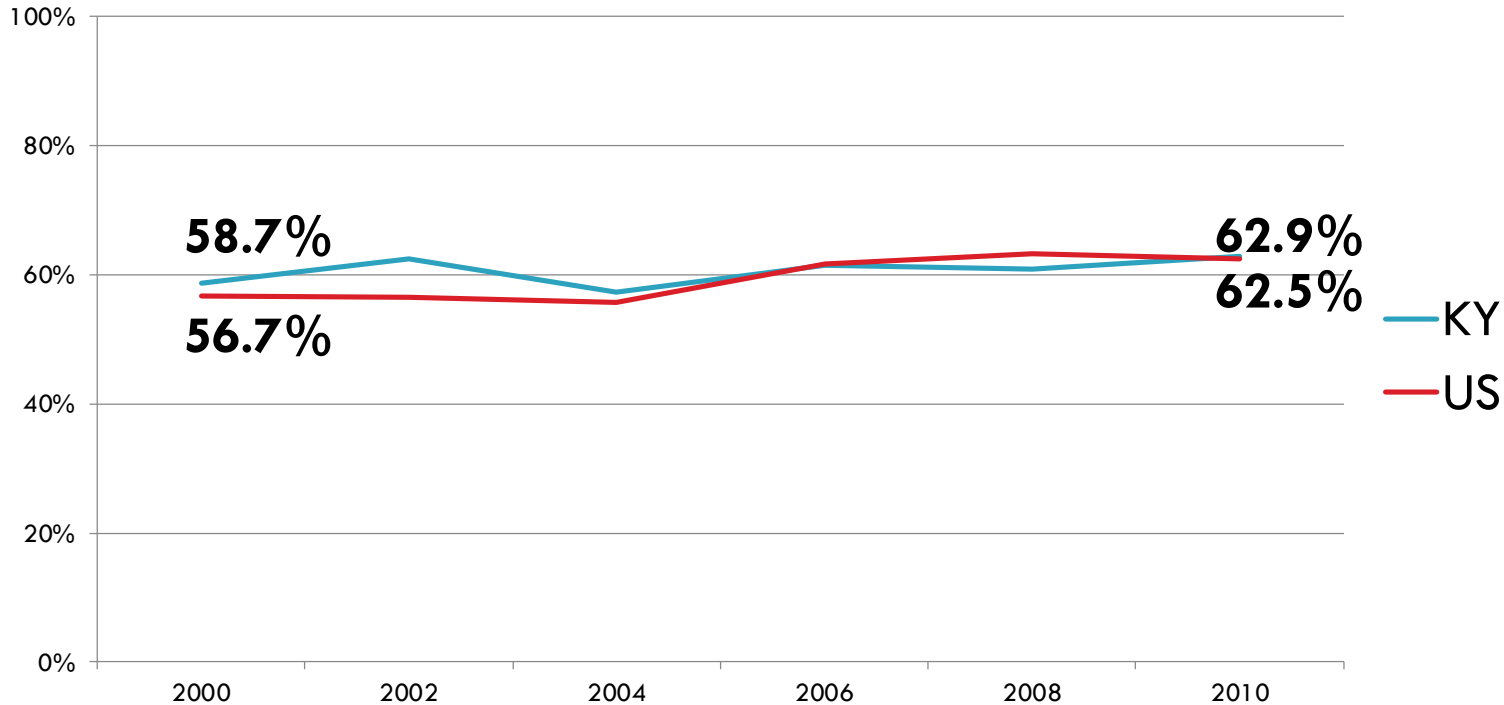


Source: "The Condition of College & Career Readiness," ACT, 2013.

# College Going



College-going rates in KY and the U.S. are flat

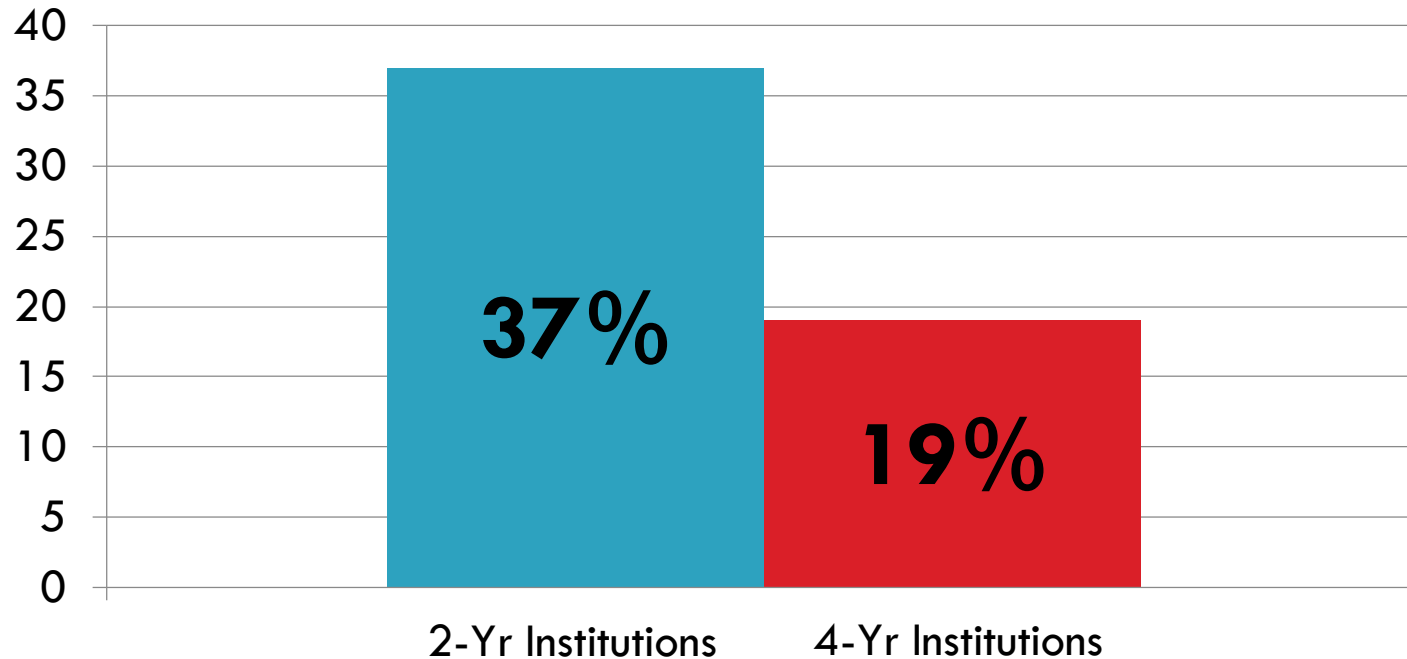


Source: National Center for Higher Education Management Systems, [www.higheredinfo.org](http://www.higheredinfo.org)

# Summer Melt



Students admitted to college who never show up



# Financial Aid

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47% of all 2013 high school graduates in the U.S. didn't complete the FAFSA, leaving more than \$2.9 billion in free federal grant money on the table.

# Financial Aid

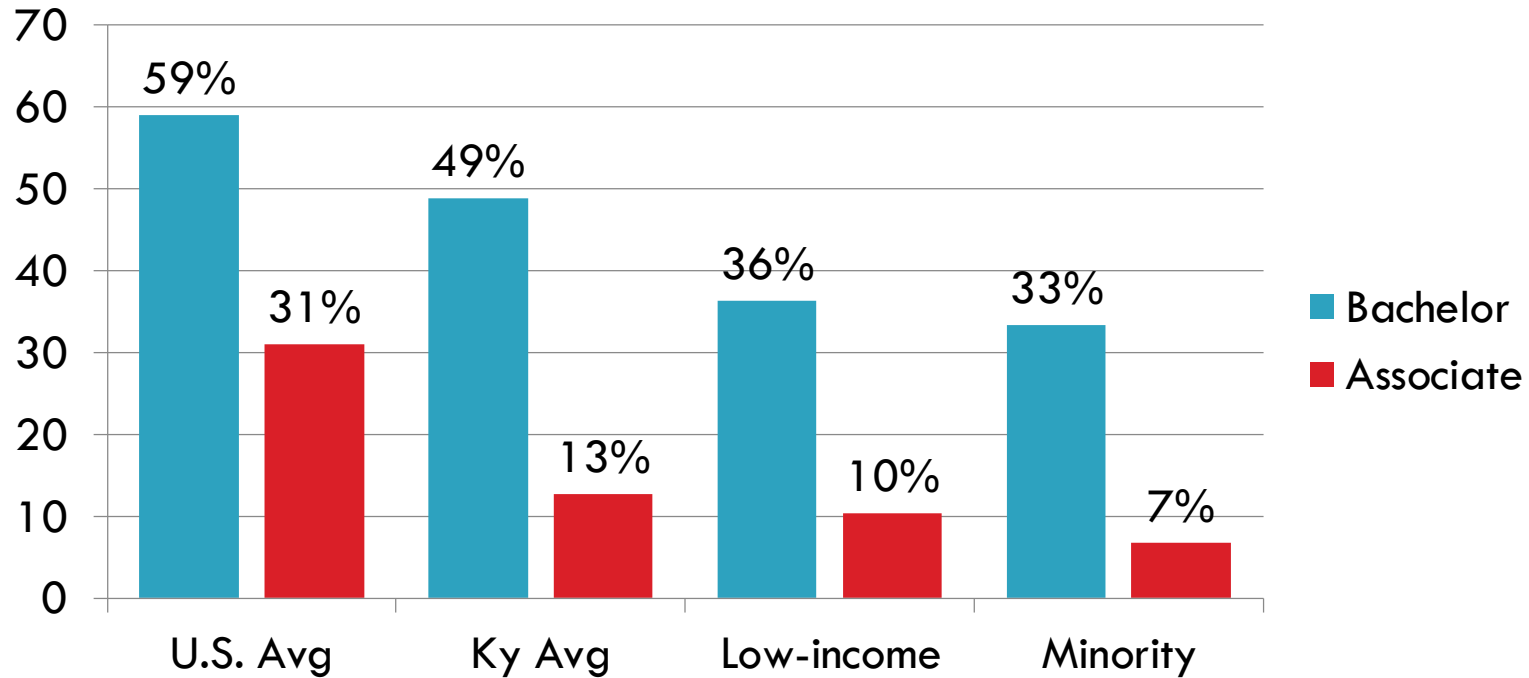
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\$40,600,000.00

Pell grant dollars left on the table  
by 2013 Kentucky high school graduates

# Graduation Rates





# Key Access Initiatives



- GEAR UP Kentucky
- Project Graduate
- KnowHow2GOKy
- Outreach Coalition
- eTranscripts
- KHEAA Outreach Services
- Close the Deal
- KY College Coaches
- Operation Preparation
- TRIO
- Others

# Challenges on the Horizon

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- Growing debate over value of a degree
- Difficult to measure the direct impact of access
- More competition for the attention of these audiences than ever before

# Emerging Focus

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- College “fit”
- Near-peer
- Accountability
- Coordination of services

# Stronger By Degrees

## Current Mission:

To deliver a world-class education to students, create and apply new knowledge, and grow the economy of the Commonwealth.

## Current Focus Areas:

- ❑ College Readiness
- ❑ Student Success
- ❑ Research, Economic, and Community Development
- ❑ Efficiency & Innovation



# Accountability



- ❑ Statewide metrics
- ❑ Institutional metrics
- ❑ Online dashboard
- ❑ Annual accountability report

# Stronger by Degrees



## Current objectives/strategies related to access:

**PO1: Increase the number of college-ready Kentuckians entering postsecondary education**

1.2. Support effective intervention strategies prior to college admission

1.3. Strengthen the college-going culture

# Stronger by Degrees



## Current objectives/strategies related to access:

### **PO5: Decrease financial barriers to college access and completion**

5.4. Increase students' and families' understanding of the net cost of going to college and the availability of financial resources to assist them.

# Stronger by Degrees



**Current metrics related to access:**

## **College-going rate of high school graduates**

Percent of recent graduates who enter any public, private or proprietary college in KY the following fall.



# Time to Brainstorm

